

**State & Local Jurisdictions**  
**Frequently Asked Questions**  
 Compilation of Questions from Geographic Area Briefings

NO.	FPA SUBJECT AREA	ANSWER BY	QUESTION / COMMENT ANSWERS
1.	State	Core	<p>Can a state or VFD ever receive FPA preparedness money when they provide IA on federal land within the FPU?</p> <p><b>There are other funding sources for VFDs besides preparedness funding. (Rural Fire Assistance)</b></p> <p>If not, why would they participate?</p> <p><b>There are many reasons for non-federal units to participate in an analysis.</b></p> <p>States and VFDs need preparedness money to keep up with NWCG qualifications and safety standards if they are working on federal land.</p>
2.	State		<p>What if the state will suppress fires on my FPU? They will be included in the analysis.</p> <p><b>States and local jurisdictions are encouraged to participate as FPU partners.</b></p> <p>But no funding will come from FPA to support the state resources.</p> <p><b>Formal interagency agreements help define the exchange of suppression resource to meet shared fire program objectives. There is an underlying assumption that the exchange of resources between fire protection partners is equal (mutual aid or offsets). FPA is a tool that can help validate these assumptions.</b></p>
3.	State		<p>If a unit's only partners are the state DNR and local VFDs, how are these considered in the analysis?</p> <p><b>There are several options available depending on the specific purpose of the analysis that the partners agree to. Please see the white paper on the FPA website.</b></p>
4.	State		<p>How will state agencies be involved in the FPA process? Will they produce outcome or just participate as providing inputs to federal agencies?</p> <p><b>The non-federal partners can participate at several levels, and it depends on what they wish to analyze. Please see the white paper on the FPA website.</b></p>



5.	State		<p>The states need to be at the table during the early phases of the planning and throughout – how can this really be landscape scale without them?</p> <p><b>We agree all potential FPU partners need to be contacted early and often with a dialog about their shared mission and opportunities for collaboration.</b></p> <p>What was the thinking behind not having them be a part of this process?</p> <p><b>The FPA vision is clearly based on cooperation at all level; States and Tribal governments are identified as key partners in the Hubbard Report and 10 Year Comprehensive Strategy.</b></p>
6.	State		<p>Does FPA guide federal funding of state and local preparedness (e.g., state fire assistance, volunteer fire assistance, rural fire assistance, etc.)?</p> <p><b>Rural Fire Assistance is specifically excluded from the preparedness analysis. We anticipate these assistance programs could be included in Phase II.</b></p> <p>What has been done to reach out to state and local partners to date?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The FPA team briefed the Executive Committee of National Association of State Foresters in June of 2003.</b></li> <li>• <b>It was the hope of the FPA team that state and local jurisdictions be invited to the Geographic Area briefings.</b></li> <li>• <b>The FPA Liaison routinely shares information about FPA development and implement with the NASF office.</b></li> </ul>
7.	State		<p>If this is truly an interagency fire program analysis, why was there not a representative on the development team representing the states and local fire service entities?</p> <p><b>There has been a proposal that a state representative join the project development teams for several current projects, including FPA.</b></p> <p><b>Please understand that our direction comes from OMB and Congress, and funding for development comes from federal sources.</b></p>



8.	State		<p>How do you propose to deal with the FPU's that have listed RFDs and especially <u>states</u> as responding resources for FPA – that then lose these resources through state downsizing?</p> <p><b>We believe the local response would be the same today as it will be under FPA. These are local realities that require line officers to make informed decisions about their organizations and staffing to meet agency goals. FPA could be a tool to help perform these “what if” analyses.</b></p>
9.	State		<p>Is NASF funding this or just federal agencies?</p> <p><b>FPA is currently funded only by federal agencies.</b></p> <p>Is NASF supportive?</p> <p><b>Yes.</b></p> <p>What are the states' positions on adoption of this system?</p> <p><b>Generally, the state response has been positive.</b></p>

